



Christmas Eve Service, Tuesday, December 24, 2019; 4:30 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24, 2019; 4:30 PM

Mount Olive Lutheran Church & School, ELS

1123 Marsh Street Mankato, MN 56001 | (507) 345-4966 | mtolive@mtolivelutheran.org
Pastors John J. Petersen & Luke Ulrich | Vicar Jacob Kempfert | Principal Adam Pavelchik |

Welcome! In the name of our risen Savior we welcome you to Mt. Olive and thank you for worshipping with us. If you are a guest, please fill out a **“Get Connected!”** card (found in front of you in the hymnbook rack). We invite you to come and worship with us again soon. **Large Print** copies of the order of service from the ELS Hymnary are available from the usher stand in the back of the sanctuary.

Order of Service, Vespers

(ELH, p. 120)

~**Prelude** — *Mt. Olive Strings*

~**Hymn 125** *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

~**Versicles**— *Opening Prayers*

(ELH p. 120-121)

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: ♪ And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: ♪ Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: forevermore. Amen. Alleluia

~**Psalmody: Hymn 138** *Joy to the World*

~**Old Testament Lesson**

Isaiah 7:10-14 Moreover the Lord spoke again to Ahaz, saying, “Ask a sign for yourself from the Lord your God; ask it either in the depth or in the height above.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, nor will I test the Lord!” Then he said, “Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

~Senior Choir: *The Father's Love* – (William Roger Price)

*Of the Father's Love begotten, ere the worlds began to be;
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He;
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.*

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung.
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.*

*This Flower, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air.
Dispels with glorious splendor,
The darkness everywhere.
True Man but very God,
From sin and death He saves us,
And lightens every load.*

*Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
This is He whom heaven-taught singers
Sang of old with one accord,
Whom the Scriptures of the prophets,
Promised in their faithful word,
Now He shines, the Long-expected,
Let creation praise its Lord:
Evermore and evermore.*

~Epistle Lesson

Titus 2:11-14 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

~Senior Choir: On Christmas Night – (Ian Higginson)

*1. On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring.
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King's birth.*

*2. Then why should we on earth be sad,
Since our Redeemer made us glad,
When from our sin He set us free,
All for to gain our liberty?*

*3. When sin departs before His grace,
Then life and health come in its place.
Angels and men with joy may sing
All for to see the new-born King.*

*4. All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God and peace to men,
Now and forevermore, Amen!"*

~Holy Gospel Lesson

Luke 2:1-14 And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

~Hymn 144, vv. 1, 3, 5-8 *Thy Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We*

~ Sermon Text

1 Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

~Sermon Theme:

"St. Paul's Christmas Carol"

~Offering & Hymn 129 *I Stand Beside Thy Manger Here*

"Christians give their offerings as a joyful response to what God has given them. The offerings given here support the continued Gospel ministry of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and School, and to support the work of sharing the Gospel throughout our community and around the world."

~Versicle

(ELH p. 122)

P: Let my prayers rise before You as incense:

C: ♪ And the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

~Nunc Dimittis — "Now I Depart"

(ELH p. 124; Lk. 2:29-32)

C: ♪ Lord, now You let Your servant depart in peace according to Your word. For my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

~Hymn 140 *Silent Night*

~Kyrie — "Lord, Have Mercy"

(ELH, p. 124)

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

~Lord's Prayer

(ELH p. 125; Mt. 6:9-13)

C: ♪ Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the pow'r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

~Collect — *The Congregation's Prayer of the Day*

(ELH p. 125; p. 148, #9)

P: Let us pray: O God, as You once caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant, we beseech You, that we who have known the mysteries of that Light here on earth may come to the fullness of Its joys in heaven; through Jesus

Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

~**Benedicamus** — *Call for blessing*

(ELH p. 127; Psalm 103:2)

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: ♪ Thanks be to God.

~**Benediction** — *Final blessing for God's people*

(ELH p. 127; 2 Cor 13:14)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: ♪ Amen.

~**Hymn 124 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come**

~**Postlude**

Preacher: Pastor Luke Ulrich / Liturgist: Pastor John Petersen

Organist: John Baumann

Senior Choir Director: Elisabeth Urtel

Accompanist: Nikki Basel

Join Us For These Special Worship Services:

Wednesday, **December 25:** Christmas Day (Office Closed)

10:00 AM – Divine Service w/Holy Communion

Tuesday, **December 31:** New Year's Eve (Office Closed)

6:30 PM – Divine Service w/Individual

Absolution and Holy Communion

Wednesday, **January 1:** New Year's Day (Office Closed)

No Service





The Poinsettias displayed on and around the altar have been donated by our members in memory/honor of the following:

Members

*Mark & Sandy Johnson
Paul & Mary Jane Tweit
Janet & Greg Costello
Ron & Mary Younge
Bill & Suzanne Bohning
Audrey Spear
Rev. Ted, Diane, Mark & Paul Gullixson
Elli & Joe Fisher
Dottie Kunkel
Art & Terri Westphal
Dave & Melodie Karge and Girls
Becky Anton
Dave & Cindy Reimers
Dean & LuAnn Shoop
Mercedes Hansen
Lois Johnson
John & Joyce Petersen
Scott Theresa Dzwonkowski
Barbara Forst*

In Memory/Honor of

*Orville & Mary Sampson
Our Parents
Al Nelson, John & Maxine Costello
Loved Ones
Our Parents
Stella & Raymond Richter
Ruth Gullixson Webber
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Grandpa Lyle Fox & Steve Karge
Robert & Ruth Kimble (Parents)
Loved Ones
Isaiah & Abram Shoop

Walther & Mildred Gullixson
Loved Ones
Miles Moyer, Timothy Moyer, Carol Dzwonkowski
Greg Forst & Sheryll Carroll*